Requirement to Affix Passive Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) Tags

THIS IS A SIGNIFICANT REVISION TO OUR PREVIOUS NOTICE ON NEW PASSIVE RFID REQUIREMENTS.

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY.

On May 19, 2006, DoD issued an interim rule amending the Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement (DFARS) to significantly expand the Classes of Supply and shipment destinations when contractors are required to affix passive Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) tags on shipments at the case and palletized unit load levels. This rule can be viewed on-line at

http://a257.g.akamaitech.net/7/257/2422/01jan20061800/edocket.access.gpo.gov/2006/06-4682.htm. The new DFARS rule addresses the second year of DOD's three-year roll-out plan for supplier implementation of RFID. The rule requires passive RFID tags for shipments of items that are in any of the following Classes of Supply: Subclass of Class I--Packaged operational rations; Class II--Clothing, individual equipment, tentage, organizational tool kits, hand tools, and administrative and housekeeping supplies and equipment; NEW Class IIIP--Packaged petroleum, lubricants, oils, preservatives, chemicals, and additives; NEW Class IV--Construction and barrier materials; Class VI--Personal demand items (non-military sales items); NEW Subclass of Class VIII--Medical materials (excluding pharmaceuticals, biologicals, and reagents); Class IX--Repair parts and components including kits, assemblies and subassemblies, reparable and consumable items required for maintenance support of all equipment, excluding medical-peculiar repair parts; AND that are being shipped to any of the following Defense Distribution Depots or Air Mobility Command Terminals: Susquehanna, PA; San Joaquin, CA; NEW Albany, GA; NEW Anniston, AL; NEW Barstow, CA; NEW Cherry Point, NC; NEW Columbus, OH; NEW Corpus Christi, TX; NEW Hill, UT; NEW Jacksonville, FL; NEW Oklahoma City, OK; NEW Norfolk, VA; NEW Puget Sound, WA; NEW Red River, TX; NEW Richmond, VA; NEW San Diego, CA; NEW Tobyhanna, PA; NEW Warner Robins, GA; NEW Charleston Air Force Base, Charleston, SC; NEW Naval Air Station, Norfolk, VA; NEW Travis Air Force Base, Fairfield, CA. Bulk commodities are excluded from passive RFID requirements. When RFID tags are required, the contractor must submit an Advance Shipment Notice to DOD via the Wide Area Work Flow (WAWF) system (see http://www.acq.osd.mil/log/rfid/advance shipment ntc.htm). This permits RFID tag data to be associated with corresponding shipments. The DOD RFID Web site contains a Class of Supply Look-Up Tool (see http://www.acq.osd.mil/log/rfid/FSC.htm) to assist suppliers in determining if a Federal Supply Group (first two digits of the National Stock Number) or a Federal Stock Class (first four digits of the National Stock Number) is subject to the RFID requirement. DLA's implementation of the new DFARS rule will take effect for solicitations issued on or after July 19, 2006. When the clause at DFARS 252.211-7006 is included in a DLA solicitation, MIL-STD-129P, Change 3, will apply. For DIBBS solicitations, suppliers who are unable to meet passive RFID tagging requirements, when applicable, must submit a "Bid With Exception" in DIBBS by answering "No" to "Accept Packaging."

Supplier options to comply with passive RFID tagging requirements can be as simple as replacing existing military shipping label printers with RFID-enabled printers. This will allow DoD contractors to print military shipping labels with embedded RFID tags. Extensive information, including Supplier Information (Info) and Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs), is posted on the DOD RFID Web site at http://www.dodrfid.org. In addition, the Procurement Technical Assistance Centers (PTACS) offer no-cost RFID training, assistance, and one-on-one counseling to DoD suppliers and small businesses (see http://www.dla.mil/db/procurem.htm). Suppliers

can also direct questions to info@dodrfid.org. The DLA focal point for acquisition-related issues is Ms. Anne Burleigh, HQ DLA, (703) 767-1358, anne.burleigh@dla.mil.